

OLD
TRAFFORD

FREE

news

WRITTEN BY RESIDENTS FOR RESIDENTS

SHOP LOCAL!
Special Feature

Spices of India

Community media frenzy

Trafford's hidden homeless

Stretford High School

Trafford 2021

and all our regular
competitions, sport,
jobs, training and more

RAW-T

Old Trafford's hip hop
heroes take on the world





Home-Start Trafford

Are you a parent?

Do you appreciate the pleasure of having children as well as understand the difficulties?

Could you spare three hours a week?

Would you like to support another family going through a difficult time?

If yes...

Home-Start Trafford is a voluntary organisation that recruits and trains volunteers, who support families under stress.

Our next volunteers training course will begin after Easter 2006.

We welcome enquiries from anyone, but particularly from Asian and Afro-Caribbean people who are under-represented at Home-Start Trafford.

For further details, please contact:
Joy Shields, Coordinator, or
Debbie Lewis, Administrator.

0161-973 2997





Great Strides fo

Hal Husbands meets the inspirational head teacher who has turned our troubled local school around

Good news! Stretford High School has been taken out of special measures. In December delighted staff and pupils were informed that their school had made such an improvement that it no longer needs to be run directly by the Department of Education. Although there are still some areas for improvement, inspectors were impressed with the

many strengths now shown by the school.

Last year Stretford High made headline news when schools inspectors labeled it 'out of control.' This brought very negative publicity and a new head teacher was brought in to rectify the problem. And Mr Dereck Davies has delivered the goods.

I visited Stretford High, where Mr Davis talked me through his achievement. He has always worked in Trafford and is very familiar with many of the parents of the students. He stated that on his first two

days he found 'delightful children,' and students and staff who wanted to change and had been let down. The students were ready for instruction, and Mr Davies's approach

'To put this school at the top of the community we have to do it together.'

involved all stakeholders (staff, students, parents and community.)

'We all have to do this,' he explains. 'To put this school at the top of the community we have to do it together.'

Mr Davies found that they valued being listened to, and he took a lot of time to interview staff and pupils, wanting to know what they thought and what they wanted to change.

At his first meeting with staff he had teaching staff, support staff, kitchen, cleaning and side staff in one big meeting.

'What the cleaner does is just as important as what





Mr Stretford High

All photos:
Hal Husbands

I do. Everyone has to make their important contribution,' he states. Now the complex and its facilities are immaculately maintained. It's a controlled system with senior staff very visible around the school at all times. Raising the aspirations of the parties involved was important because there was plenty of speculation on what these youngsters can or cannot achieve, and Mr Davies was not prepared to let these kids be abandoned. Positive relationships gave positive results, and this has created a happy atmosphere where staff and students look forward to coming to school everyday.

The recent inspectors' report noted that the teaching is now good overall, leading to better progress and higher grades. Their behaviour is good and pupils are very happy to say how proud they are of the school and want to do better. Teachers are working hard to support and help them settle quickly into school and do their best. The head teacher and all the staff know what needs to be done to make



Stretford High a good school and are working together to make sure that these pupils get the best possible education.

The change that Mr Davies is happiest about is the quality of teaching that is now available to the students. Last year it was reported that 14% of the lessons were good or excellent. This year it is 62% and expecting to rise. A new Parent Teachers Association has been formed and it is predicted that in two years Stretford High will be an outstanding school. Many would say that it already is.

Many congratulations to the head, staff, students and parents of the Stretford High School on a job well done.



OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS





Is Old Trafford to be moved to Salford?

David Esdaile reports

Attention attention attention! Old Trafford is to be united with Salford!

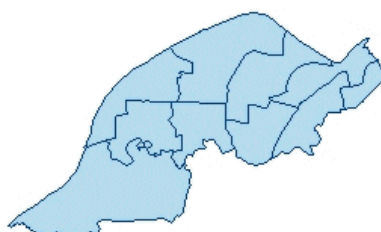
Yes, believe or not there are plans afoot by the powers that be to change the existing parliamentary constituency boundaries and move Old Trafford to Salford. Can you believe it? You're probably scratching your head, thinking so what does that mean to us in real terms? How is it going to change our lives?

Following recent elections the Boundary Commission have been looking at the distribution of parliamentary constituencies across Greater Manchester and recently published a paper with their recommendations for the area. The commission invited submissions from all the major political and interested parties, and these were considered at a full public meeting at Manchester Town Hall in October.

The Commission, reasonably, wishes to maintain the current boundaries of the constituency, so linking the adjacent communities of Old

Trafford, Stretford, Urmston, Flixton and Davyhulme, which are all part of Trafford Metropolitan Borough.

However, the local Conservative party, under Susan



Stretford and Urmston constituency

Williams, have put a counter proposal to the Commissions proposal which essentially places Old Trafford, Gorse Hill, Lostock, and half of Stretford in a new Salford & Quays parliamentary constituency, linking these Old Trafford wards with wards in Salford.

The position of Trafford Borough Council at present would seem to indicate that they are indeed in favour of the Conservative proposal to put Old Trafford in with Salford. Given that the Conservatives hold a majority in Trafford then this is probably hardly surprising.

Beverley Hughes, Labour MP for Stretford and Urmston, (which includes Old Trafford) and the local Liberal councillors are vigorously opposed to the Conservatives' proposals, stating that 'they would be highly detrimental to the local community and area.' They also believe that, 'community action has to be taken to stop these changes taking place,

ordinary residents, faith groups and community organisations must be proactive and directly tell the Boundary Commission that they do not want the proposed changes to take place, petitioning, leafleting, lobbying and writing in.'

The main thrust of the argument against the proposal is that: (a) the natural boundary of the Ship Canal would be breached; (b) Stretford would be separated from Longford and Gorsehill; and (c) the lack of shared communal ties between the areas of Trafford (Old Trafford, Gorsehill, Lostock and Stretford, and those they propose to join in Salford.

This is quite a complex issue with little clarity about the impact of the changes and what they mean to the average Joe. Most people will be nonplussed and apathetic to the changes, not really grasping or indeed caring what the implications. Personally, the very thought of us being put with Salford fills me with dread, I do not wish to disrespect the fine City of Salford or anything Salfordian, but I am happy being a Traffordian and I believe that Greater Manchester will not be affected by us staying as we are!

Make your views known:

Mr Nicholas Elliot QC
Assistant Commissioner
Boundary Commission for
England
PO Box 31060
London
SW1V 2 FF



Black Health Agency: 15 years of health

by Menyen Lai

Black Health Agency (BHA), the Manchester-based charity dedicated to improving the health of Black and Minority Ethnic communities, has been marking its work over the past 15 years. The celebrations included an event in October 2005 at the City of Manchester Stadium, hosted by ITV Granada Reports front man, Tony Morris and Paul Sinha, a pioneering Asian comic.

Under the leadership of Chief Executive, Evelyn Asante Mensah, the BHA has become a nationally recognised organisation playing a major role in informing policy

and delivering services to communities locally, regionally and nationally. Mensah has been awarded an OBE in the latest New Years Honours list for her work in challenging health inequalities, both in the statutory and voluntary sector over the past 15 years. She is recognised for her accomplishments in promoting a wider understanding of the health needs of diverse communities and increasing awareness of the importance of quality service provision for these groups.

www.blackhealthagency.org.uk

You're never too old for primary school!

Seymour Park Primary School has begun running courses for adults in their Community Learning Room. Courses are all designed for adults with few qualifications who wish to return to learning, and are free of charge.

For more information contact Natalie Laughlin at Community Learning Trafford, on 0161 912 1350.

Dedicated followers of (green) fashion

Ever fancied yourself as a fashion designer... or even a model?

Old Trafford environmental agency Action For Sus-



tainable Living are holding a Fashion Show on the 10th April at Urbis and are looking for local community groups to get involved!

Each group will design and make the clothes based on any theme and they are also hoping that individuals will model them on the catwalk too. They aim to prove that ethical garments need not be made of sackcloth.

As well as local products, the event will showcase the products of nationally known companies offering clothes that are as healthy for the

planet as they are hip for the street, such as the T-shirt from The Hemp Trading Company, modelled by poet Benjamin Zephaniah (left).

The SUST Fashion Show promises to be a fun and engaging event with many suppliers of ethical clothing taking part.

Please contact Claire Wheeler on Tel. 0845 108 6241 or claire.wheeler@afsl.org.uk for more information

photo: www.thtc.co.uk

OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS





Seymour Park School makeover dream becomes a reality

Report and photo
by Gillian Drayton

In the last issue of OTN, we reported plans to rejuvenate the playgrounds at Seymour Park School. Now the plans have come to pass, and jubilant children rejoice at the transformation of their playground, a place now full of colour and stimulation. I went along to ask the children what they thought about their new improved surroundings and here is what they had to say. "We made a wish list and now we have everything from that list, this is the best school ever" says Max.

"Before we had all these climbing frames, there wasn't much to do at play-time, but now it's wicked" adds Calum

"My little brother walks to school with me in the morning and my mum can't get him home because he wants to



stay and play on the climbing frames" says Joe, while Lewis sums it up as follows:

"We have basketball nets, ropes to balance on, ropes to climb up, and lots of secret hiding places. It great fun".

Six months ago the children of Seymour Park school put in lots of hard

work gathering and putting information together as an aim to secure funding for a face lift for their otherwise dull looking playground. The bid was successful and all their hard work paid off and secured them £5000 towards equipment. Well done to all the pupils and staff at Seymour Park School.



Trafford NHS funding crisis raises fears of closures

Paul Sheehan reports

Major changes to local healthcare services are on the way in response to a financial crisis in the Trafford NHS. The body that runs the area's hospitals, the Trafford Healthcare Trust, is expected to have debts in excess of £12m by the end of the financial year and as a result it is making major cuts in its expenditure. Locally the most significant change is the proposal to hand over Stretford Memorial Hospital to the local Trafford Primary Care Trust (PCT), which is the body that manages services from GPs, walk-in centres and other community-based healthcare. It is not yet clear how this will impact treatment and services delivered from Stretford Memorial in the future.

More drastic action is proposed further south, where Altrincham General may close. The hospital has few beds but treats thousands of outpatients each year. The Healthcare Trust claims that the costs of renovating and maintaining the elderly buildings cannot be

justified, and instead wants to provide some outpatient services from leased premises in Altrincham.

The major hospital in the borough is to be subject to cuts as well. Buildings will close at Trafford General and land will be sold in order to reduce the site by 25%. The Trust says this is necessary in order "to concentrate investment on the main complex". They also point to the fact that there are other major hospitals providing services just outside Trafford, such as the MRI, Wythenshawe and Withington Community Hospital.

Critics of the plans suggest that the changes will lead to people travelling further afield for treatment, while the local MP for Altrincham called the proposed closure "a gross betrayal of local people". It is also claimed that the proposals are a knee-jerk response by the Trust to a critical report by the

external Audit Commission, which insisted that the Trust put in place an immediate recovery plan to address its debts. Given the scale of the changes, Trafford Council has set up a special commission to ensure that the views of local people are heard. The commission will not have the power to change the proposals directly but it hopes to put pressure on the NHS to deliver what is best for the residents of Trafford. It will also look into proposed changes to children's health and maternity services. Further details on the commission's work are available by calling the council on 0161 912 1229.



Under threat: Stretford Memorial Hospital

Do you know of a story we need to cover?
email otn@hotmail.co.uk

write to us at
St John's Centre,
St John's Rd
Old Trafford, M16 7GX

tel: 0161 872 7795

OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS



Trafford has a vision

A major new report imagines life in Trafford in the year 2021. **David Esdaile** was at the launch.

TV's Jim Hancock from the BBC's Politics Show recently hosted the launch of Trafford Partnership's 2021 community blueprint for the future.

The event culminated months of public consultation by Trafford Partnership who took on board comments made by local residents and the business communities to put together the borough's community strategy for 2021 and the actions needed to achieve them.

The event took place at Manchester United Football Club on the 19th January 2006 and focussed on a wide range of Trafford people and their experiences of living, learning, working and relaxing

in Trafford.

The Chair of The Partnership and the Chief Executive of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Angie Robinson, was over the moon about the number of partner agencies that played a key role in the strategy,

"It was great to hear the voices of so many different people in a shared vision for the future." The membership of the Partnership consists of the Council, the Police, the Primary Care Trusts, colleges, local busi-

ness, voluntary and community organisations. The event was attended by over 300 representatives but the stars of the show were undoubtedly the Trafford Urban Fitness Collective crew, Marvyn English and Shagun Badejo, who were given a standing ovation for their presentation about TUF-C. Council Leader Susan Williams said that, "This event was an overwhelming success because of the diversity and input of local young people like Marvyn and Shagun. Roll on 2021!"



Jim Hancock addresses the Vision 2021 launch





New drugs services for Old Trafford

Old Trafford residents fighting drug problems have been offered new hope by the arrival of additional services to the area. The recently refurbished Broome House is to play host to services provided by the ACCESS2 initiative, who will be providing informal factual advice and information sessions and one to one appointment opportunities on a weekly basis from within the newly refurbished Broome House Social and Cultural Inclusion Service on Seymour Grove.

ACCESS2 will also be holding sessions on Tuesday afternoons at St John's Centre for

the next three months at least, are also looking to find a suitable location to conduct satellite services or even a permanent base in Tamworth Court or any premises near Stamford Street or Shrewsbury Street.

ACCESS2 exists to reduce the harm of substance misuse to the individual, their families and the communities that they serve. They offer services to people facing problems with heroin, crack, cocaine, amphetamines, psychedelics, benzodiazepines, cannabis or any other psychoactive drugs. So, if any Community Groups within Old Trafford would like

additional advice and information about the biological or psychological effects of drug use and the treatment options available. ACCESS2 can now deliver information sessions customised to your individual need.

There is further good news, the agency Turning Point is planning to open a community detox unit for substance abusers in the Old Trafford area. Watch this space for details.

ACCESS2:
07917 264 957

OTNEWS OTNEWS OTNEWS

Get in Touch

If you're interested in opening an account or just want more information, call us on the number below, or you can drop in at Shrewsbury Street Centre.

Address

Shrewsbury Street Centre,
Shrewsbury Street,
Old Trafford,
Manchester M16 9AX

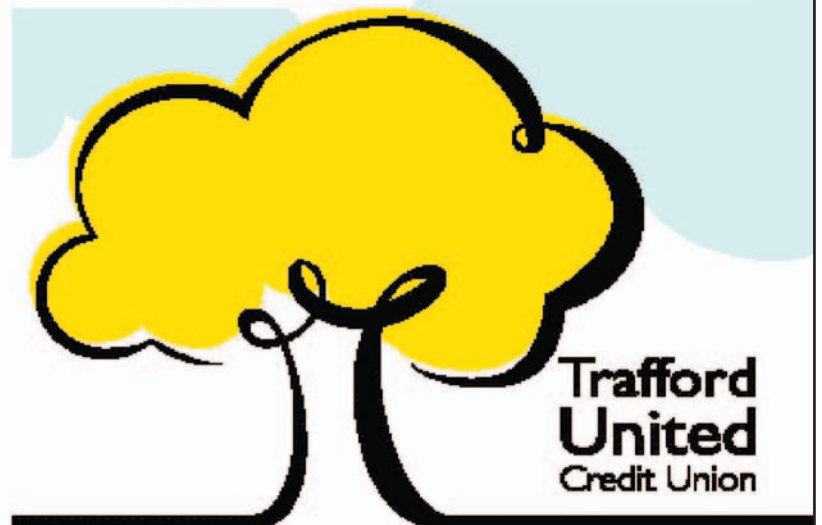
Telephone

0161 912 1536

Website: www.traffordcreditunion.com

E-Mail: traffordunited@yahoo.co.uk

Help your money grow



OLD TRAFFORD'S HIDDEN HOMELESS

Hundreds of men, women and children may be starving on our streets. **Paul Sheehan** reveals the human tragedy behind the panic on asylum. Photography: **Pele Dawson**

If you believe Council figures, the problem of homeless people sleeping rough has been all but cracked. According to the latest snapshot counts, there are only two rough sleepers in Trafford Borough. Manchester apparently has seven. However, a local Christian charity claims there is a hidden crisis on Manchester's streets.

The Boaz Trust estimates that at as many as 1500 asylum seekers in the Greater Manchester area may lack regular accommodation, and 15-20% of those may sleep rough some or all the time.

'Once a person's asylum application is rejected they have no means of supporting themselves: they're not allowed to work, they

aren't eligible for accommodation and they can't claim benefits' explained Dave Smith, the charity's founder. 'Even if the council were recording their num-



bers, legally they can't help them and they have nowhere to go. The only way they can get any support is to sign an agreement to return to their country of origin, but that's where they've had to flee from in the first place.

Effectively they are being starved out of this country.'

Some people may have little sympathy for a 'failed' asylum seeker, especially in the current climate created by the tabloid press and the government. But Dave points out that the asylum system is failing many people who have legitimate claims to refuge. 'The reductions in legal aid mean that fewer solicitors are willing to take on asylum work, and sometimes

the service offered is poor. A lot of very persuasive claims are failing simply because people don't have legal representation. Also the asylum judge often has a very limited or outdated knowledge of the situation in their country of origin.



George Briggs distributes emergency rations at St Bride's Church

As a result some people are being forced to return to persecution and danger back home. The fact that they'd rather live in abject poverty here shows how bad the alternative must be.'

To alleviate the crisis the Boaz Trust tries to find short-term accommodation for destitute asylum seekers. It has a list of supporters who will offer a temporary place in their homes, while a small number of people have bought cheap houses and lend them rent-free to the Trust. The charity also works with a Red Cross destitution project at St. Bride's church in Old Trafford, where asylum seekers are given

food parcels and advice. But Dave says the situation is getting worse. 'Over 80 people come to St. Bride's every week, while we have a waiting list of 60 for accommodation. Every day we get three or four new calls from desperate people but we can't help them all. We would like to set

up night shelters in church halls but the council won't let us.'



Boaz Trust would be delighted to hear from anyone who could offer temporary shelter or assistance to asylum seekers: Dave Smith can provide further details on (0161) 442 1869 or boaztrust@aol.com.

Donations of supplies, and particularly toiletries and cleaning products are welcome at St. Bride's too. Please call George Briggs on (0161) 226 3047.

Have your say: otn@hotmail.co.uk





If the spotlight
was on
Your home....
Your car....
Your things....



Would they be safe and secure?

Living in Old Trafford?

If your belongings aren't as secure as you'd like them to be don't leave it to chance.

SPOTLIGHT is a brand new scheme to help reduce crime in this area and best of all.....it's free!

SMARTWATER marking will help us to identify your belongings and return them to you if they are stolen. We'll mark your valuables FREE of charge

DRIVE THIEVES AWAY.....put an AUTOLOCK on your car and make sure that you're the only one in the driving seat. We'll supply you with one FREE of charge

If you have a SHED we'll even supply you with a FREE shed lock

And, of course, our advice is free too. Your local warden has lots of tips to give you about protecting your home.

Let's reduce crime in Old Trafford

Call us today on 0161 912 1818 and put your home under the SPOTLIGHT

Or log onto www.trafford.gov/spotlight to find out more





ADVERTISING FEATURE

Old Trafford's residents: Slow on the take-up?

SPOTLIGHT...

... is a partnership funded scheme offering Old Trafford's community free security equipment. But not everyone has taken them up on this offer.

A resident on Kings Road, for example. They were visited by a Spotlight warden in September, they were offered a home marking kit and some advice on how to protect the property. It was declined. Three months later the house was burgled.

An occupier, on Northumberland Road was offered a car steering lock from the Spotlight team in July. The offer was refused. Four months later and the car has now been stolen twice.

You are less likely to be a victim of crime with Spotlight

If you'd like to learn from them, and take up Project Spotlight's offer, call to make an appointment with a warden to receive free security equipment and advice.

**The number to call is
0161 912 1818.**

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

TAMWORTH ESTATE RESIDENTS

Spotlight is now working in the TAMWORTH ESTATE. If you'd like to make an appointment please contact Trafford Housing Trust or the Spotlight team on
0161 912 1818.

Free for
Businesses.

It's not just residents who can benefit from Project Spotlight. There is funding available to offer all businesses in Old Trafford and Gorse Hill a security package worth over £1000 for FREE.

This is on a first come, first served basis.

For more information please call
0161 856 7727





The dream bank

Too good to be true? Menyen Lai discovers a local bank that gives away money.

We are one of the luckiest boroughs in Manchester. Why? Because we have been given lots of money to spend on projects in and around the area. That's the good news. The bad news is that while we may be able to transform that piece of wasteland into gardens, or set up an after school club, we're not. Instead, the money is sitting in a bank waiting to be claimed. Yep, you heard right, and to be precise it's sitting in the 'Youth-Bank'.

YouthBank UK is a scheme set up by 5 charitable organisations with the aim of encouraging young people to take an active role within their community. YouthBank UK was born in 1999 and since then it has grown to over twenty branches spreading from the Shetland Islands to Exeter, and Northern Ireland to Norfolk, with four branches in Greater Manchester alone, and one right on our doorstep.

The YouthBank Trafford branch comes under the umbrella group of Youthbank UK from whom they receive their funds. Set up three years ago they encompass the Old Trafford, Stretford and Gorse Hill areas. The Trafford YouthBank coordinator,

Aneela Yousaf, explains,

'The organisation is a grant-making initiative that has been set up to empower and support young people...it is a project for young people, run by young people.'

YouthBank is made up of a group of volunteers and the applicants. The YouthBank organisation provides young people between the ages of 11 and 25, with small grants of between £50-£500 to bring an idea through to fruition. The administration office for Trafford YouthBank is based at 60 Seymour Grove and it is the place where the volunteers, also aged between 11 and 25, meet regularly.

'The funding must benefit the person and the community'

One of the main responsibilities of a volunteer is to decide who receives funding. This exemplifies the whole

YouthBank ethos and is a policy Aneela actively promotes,

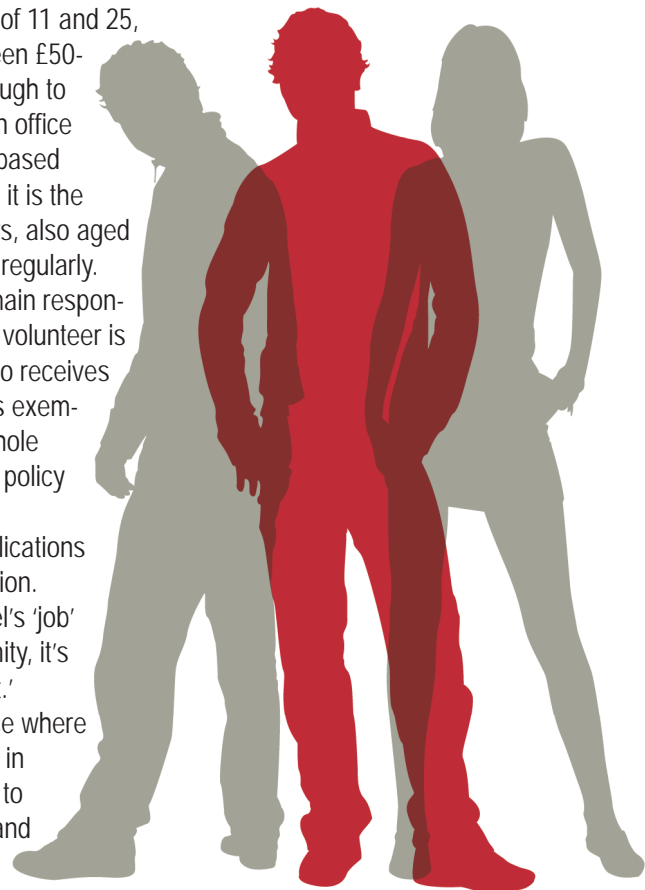
'I will look over the applications but I don't make the decision. That is the volunteer panel's 'job' because it's their community, it's their area, it's their project.'

The base is also a place where volunteers can participate in training sessions that aim to increase self-awareness and inter-personal skills.

'The in-house training we offer incorporates

role plays and team building, as well as informal discussions about the major issues that surround young people today, such as sex, drugs and alcohol. Volunteers are also taken on confidence and self-esteem boosting trips out of Manchester.'

The applicants are first required to



GRAPHICS BY NORTHBOUND FOR YOUTH BANK





The dream bank



YouthBank co-ordinator
Aneela Yousaf

complete a form detailing their idea and the reason why they need funding; they will then be invited to attend an informal meeting to discuss, in more depth, their proposal.

'The assessment of a bid includes questions like; how will this proposal benefit the community, how will this proposal benefit the applicant and how will the funding affect them, directly and indirectly, and how realistic is the proposal.'

Aneela views this scheme as a learning process for the applicants too, as the process from start to finish teaches essential life skills. Applicants learn how to plan the project on paper, then the organisation of implementing the project, through to the daily running.

'There is a £500 limit, because young people will motivate themselves to look for other funding which helps them with research skills, communication skills and this also tests their determination.'

Proposals are considered on their individual merits and successful projects have included a wide range of themes.

'YouthBank has funded a young person to attend a training course for her business of translating material into different languages for residents of Trafford, it has also helped a young person open up an internet café benefiting school children who use it for homework and YouthBank has

helped a keen boxer with clothing costs for his own club. Every application that we receive is seriously considered, but the main objective is that it must benefit the person and the community."

So, if you're between 11 and 25 and from any of the three areas mentioned all you need is vision, drive and an idea or an interest that will benefit the community.

That's what these these people did.

Marika Spence

Local resident Marika heard of YouthBank through the Gorse Hill Youth Centre and received funding to attend the National Youth Theatre, an experience she required in order to help set up a youth theatre group in her hometown. It took Marika two weeks from submitting her application to receiving funding. Marika says YouthBank has enabled her to meet new people, and doing so has helped her with the theatre, as well as being 'good fun and something I enjoyed.'

Gemma McLeod & Daniella Edwards.

Gemma discovered YouthBank through a 'Diversity' day and along with partner Daniella, is in the process of receiving funding to set up their project Reflect. The aim of Reflect is to

enable young people to express emotions through poetry and drama. Gemma says at the discussion Aneela really helped by suggesting what equipment was needed and where this could be bought. Gemma remarks that they remained quite independent throughout the whole process, although it would have been nice to meet the volunteers. Her advice to would-be volunteers is 'It's easier than you think and it's worth a try. There's lots of help there when you make a bid and there's help and advice available after.'

Michael Starkey

Michael first came across YouthBank when they visited his school Stretford High two years ago and he's been a panellist ever since. One of the things he looks for is commitment from the applicant. Michael is closely involved with each project from start to finish.

The benefits Michael enjoys for his time, energy and commitment include training, trekking on field trips and the 'perks', such as gaining free entry into projects funded by YouthBank.

His advice for would-be applicants is to 'Sort your application form out properly. Details are important because we don't want to keep calling you for more information! If you want to see something really happen, just do it, just ask us for money.'

He says he would also like to see a bid for more skateparks.





Local shops



for local people

Last month a committee of MPs warned that the independent local shop could be extinct within a decade. Now an Old Trafford Food Map promises to help local people find what they need on their doorsteps.

Paul Sheehan explores the importance of shopping locally, while overleaf we put the map to the test.

Photography: **Celia Hooson**





When it comes to shopping, many of us will confess to being hypocrites. We bemoan the power of the big soulless supermarkets and yet every week we use them for the bulk of our shopping. Now a local group is trying to change our shopping habits by producing a Food Map for Old Trafford, which will identify a variety of independent shops in the area and the type of food that can be bought there.

Claire Wheeler of Action for Sustainable Living (AFSL) explains: 'We did a survey of independent food shops in Old Trafford and 90% had noticed a decline in their business over recent years.

'These shops provide a focus and identity for the local area: they're a place where people meet their friends and neighbours. If we don't support these shops then we will lose them. It has happened elsewhere: small independent shops close or are replaced by 'cloned' franchises. The whole community suffers as a result.'

There are also positive reasons to give local shops your custom. The survey revealed that prices in the independent outlets were very competitive when compared to the supermarkets, contrary to many people's

perceptions. 'In particular we found that vegetables were cheaper in the local shops, as in the supermarkets you're often paying for packaging and appearance. Also you can get more specialist foods locally; there's a much more interesting variety of foods available.' Furthermore the rise of the supermarkets has led to increased traffic and so by

use local shops as much as we can, but we have to be realistic about what people can do given their particular circumstances. This is not about making people feel guilty, it's about taking positive actions to sustain the local community. If everyone changed their shopping habits even a little then collectively we would have a big impact.'



walking or taking a bus ride to the local shops you are helping make local roads safer, as well as doing your bit for the environment.

But what would Claire say to people who say they have no time to spend going round local shops, especially those juggling the demands of work and children? Claire's message is clear: 'We should try to

The local food map will be available in March and will be distributed throughout Old Trafford. AFSL campaign on issues such as recycling and energy saving, and can arrange free home visits to give advice on living more sustainably. If you would like more details then visit the group's website at www.afsl.org.uk or contact Claire Wheeler on 0845 108 6241 or claire.wheeler@afsl.org.uk





LOCAL SHOPS

THE GREAT OLD TRAFFORD

This recipe was created by Marcus Wareing, Michelin star-wearing chef at the Savoy Grill for THE COOK'S BOOK

Baking minced lamb under a plump pillow of rich and creamy potato purée transforms this humble cut of meat into a very special pie

INGREDIENTS

6 small shallots

1 large carrot

2tbsp vegetable oil

50g (1³/₄oz) unsalted butter

1 bay leaf

1 sprig of fresh thyme

500g (1lb 2oz) minced lamb

1 tbsp tomato purée

dash of Worcestershire sauce

1 litre (1³/₄ pints) lamb or chicken stock

250g (8¹/₂oz) frozen peas

For the topping

500g (1lb 2oz) King Edward or Désirée potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks

120ml (4fl oz) milk

125g (4¹/₂oz) butter

2 egg yolks

1 Dice the shallots and carrot as for a small mirepoix (p301). Heat the oil and butter in a frying pan over a moderate heat until foaming. Add the shallots, carrot, bay leaf and thyme and cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.



2 Add the lamb and cook until it is all coloured, stirring and pressing with a fork to break up any lumps. Season, then stir in the tomato purée, Worcestershire sauce, and stock. Cook for 20 minutes or until reduced to a sauce-like consistency, adding the peas for the last 5 minutes.

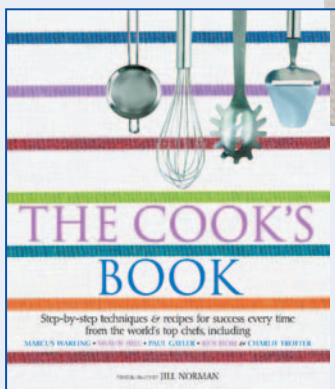
3 Put the potatoes in a pan of cold water, bring to the boil and simmer for 20 minutes or until soft but not mushy. Drain and push through a drum sieve or potato ricer while still hot. Warm the milk and butter until the butter has melted, then mix into the potato with the egg yolks and seasoning.

4 Preheat the oven to 190°C (375°F, gas 5). Pour the meat mixture into an ovenproof dish and spread out evenly. Spoon the potato purée into a piping bag fitted with a large, plain nozzle and pipe the purée in straight lines on top.

Leave the pie to stand for 10 minutes, then serve straight from the dish.



5 Smooth the piped potato with a palette knife, then mark a pattern on top by drawing up the end of the knife at regular intervals. Bake in the oven for 30 minutes until the top of the shepherd's pie is golden brown.



16

WIN THIS RECIPE BOOK!





FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

SHEPHERD'S PIE TEST

Can we buy all the ingredients for this pie without leaving the neighbourhood?

And how does a major nearby supermarket compare?

✓ 6 small shallots	Manchester Superstore	£0.49	£0.63
✓ 1 large carrot	Jawad's Retail Store	£0.10	£0.12
✓ Vegetable oil	Jawad's Retail Store	£0.89	£0.43
✓ Unsalted butter	Manchester Superstore	£1.19	£0.82
✓ Bay leaves	Manchester Superstore	£0.79	£0.49
✓ Fresh thyme	Manchester Superstore	£0.39	£0.58
✓ 500g minced lamb	L.Gunning	£2.20	£1.99
✓ Tomato purée	Jawad's Retail Store	£0.39	£0.19
✓ Worcestershire sauce	Premier Stores	£0.79	£0.87
✓ Stock cubes	Premier Stores	£0.46	£0.45
✓ Frozen peas	Shah's	£0.69	£0.76
✓ King Edward potatoes	L.Gunning	£0.22	£0.23
✓ 1 pt milk	Premier Stores	£0.30	£0.33
✓ half a dozen eggs	L.Gunning	£0.60	£0.84
Total cost		£9.60	£8.73

Result? Less than a bus fare in it.

*If you've tried and loved Marcus Wareing's shepherd's pie, and you want to try out over 600 more recipes by the world's best chefs, then you need **THE COOK'S BOOK**, published by Dorling Kindersley and available in all good bookshops for £30. But one lucky OTN reader can win a copy **ABSOLUTELY FREE**.*

*To win, email the answer to the question below to: **otn@hotmail.co.uk** or send a postcard to:
OTN, St. John's Centre, St John's Rd. Old Trafford, M16 7GX*

QUESTION: WHICH TV SHOW HAS A FAMOUS 'LOCAL SHOP FOR LOCAL PEOPLE' ?



Closing date: Feb 24th '06



SNAP LOCAL!

We sent **Celia Hooson** window-shopping on the streets of Old Trafford.







RAW TALENT

A homegrown rap crew is taking the musical world by storm. In an exclusive interview for Old Trafford News, **MC Dreade** dishes the grime to **Iveren Yongo**.
Photography: **Hal Husbands**

RAW-T are a homegrown rap, beats and lyric sensation with a heart beat for Old Trafford. The RAW-T collective, aged between 17 and 26, are MCs Solja, Dreadless Dreados, Mack D and Little G; the beats man, DT; and two DJs DJ Flair and DJ Que.

Tony Wilson, the legendary Manchester music impresario, restarted Factory Records as F4 Records just to sign RAW-T. Their debut album, Realise and Witness is already getting glowing reviews from critics and widespread attention across the world.

Influenced by their own experiences and the soundtrack of British street culture, RAW-T are just about telling it like it is. So pin your ears back and watch this space. RAW-T have got something to say.

How would you describe your music to someone who has never heard it before?

Well basically it's raw. That's why we're called RAW-T because we're raw. It's whatever we're feeling at the time.

So your debut album, Realise and Witness Talent what's that all about? That's telling the people, "Realise and witness this talent" because it's raw, it's not like raw and rubbish, it's raw but it's good music at the same time.

Are there any labels for your music that you really hate?

Bwoy! I don't really hate what they call us.

Anything they call us is good to me, any promotion.

You're being called UK Hip Hop, Garage and Grime, what do you say to that?

Woah, they can call us all that because we can do all that.

Do you think RAW-T would sound different if you came from London, Bristol or LA?

Nah, If RAW-T was in LA, we'd be talking this way - American - but we'd still be raw, we'd still be the same people we are, if we were sitting in London we'd be the same.

You once said "the past makes me presently aware of my future". How

Oh bwoy. MC Dreade

much do your lyrics (individually and as a crew) reflect your past, your childhood and upbringing in and around Old Trafford and Moss Side?

Ahhhhh! Bwoy! Whatever we go through we'll speak about. If we've been through something in the past we'll speak about it in the present. We know what we want so we've got to speak about what we want for the future.

Is it important for you to make your mark in Manchester? Would you rather be recognised on the Streets of Old Trafford or New York?

Yeah definitely. Because there's no point being recognised in New York and not being recognised in the place that you live, it don't make sense.

Is it important to reflect and describe some of the things going on in this community or to challenge them?

Well I don't think we're at that level yet of thinking. We could come with that now and maybe people would listen but I don't know if they would listen at this level.

You seem to have a bigger profile in some parts of Europe than you do in the UK. Any ideas why?

Yeah, I can say for Manchester they don't really want to put up acts like us because they're scared of the kind of people it might attract. We like vibes, it's the same kind of music we're playing here but the people that are coming and listening, are coming and listening and shacking out and then going. There's no shanking, there's no guns, it's just all a vibe.

When Tony Wilson approached you to sign did you know who he was? What were your first impressions of him when you met him?

No! I was like, "who's this guy?" Then I was like, "Okay, well let's see what Tone's got".

It's been said that RAW-T as an upcoming outfit will soon be rivalling The Streets and Dizzee Rascal. What do you reckon to that?

Definitely! That's right. Look, just watch this space. That's all I'm saying - no boasting, I'm just saying you got to get on your grimes, you've got to do what you've got to do. You've got to make the tracks and that's what we're doing. RAW-T's coming!

What's the next big thing for RAW-T?

Well bwoy, bare tunes! We've got something coming up called Shush, we got another thing coming called Relay, watch out, we've got a mix coming out called the League of Extraordinary MCs - that's gonna be a lot of MCs from Manchester just flooding it with bare Manchester. We've got a radio slot coming up with Trafford Community Radio, so every Saturday we're just gonna push Manchester music - the grime!



How about a sneak preview of this new release I've heard whispers about?

No comment. I'll keep you posted

WIN RAW-T'S ALBUM

RAW-T didn't just give us an interview, they gave us a copy of their mindblowing debut album, *Realise and Witness*, to give to a reader. To win it, tell us which Manchester rapper, once of Black Grape, shares his name with a Muppet? Answers to OTN, St John's Centre, Manchester M16 7GX or otn@hotmail.co.uk



Communication

Community media is taking over the world... or at least our own corner of it. **Ally Fogg** and **Paul Sheehan** get the lowdown.

Traditionally, the newspapers we read, the television we watch, the radio we hear has been delivered to us from 'on high.' It is owned by billionaires, multinational companies or, in the case of the BBC, by the state, under the watchful eyes of government and politicians. In recent years however, a new form of media has been sweeping Britain. Media that is owned and run by the people, for the people. The voices, faces and opinions it contains are those of real people, not professional journalists, photographers, broadcasters and producers. Anyone can take part, regardless of their skills and experience. People who once thought that radio, TV, websites or newspapers were only produced by the high and mighty are now making it themselves. The phenomenon is called community media and it is everywhere. One example is in your hands right now – this magazine. But we are not the only ones...

Trafford
Community
Radio 106.2

Mary Seacole House, nestled at the junction of Gorse Hill, Old Trafford and Stretford is a bustling, energetic community centre at the best of times. This winter however, it has an energy and buzz that can only mean one thing - community radio has come to town.



Aisha Downer and Sarah Brimm train up for TCR under the guidance of Michael Ngawoofah, aka DJ Natty

Trafford missed out last year when the authorities handed out seven full-time community radio licences in Greater Manchester. TCR plans to make sure it doesn't happen again.

'We aim to bring the Trafford community together and give them the chance to express themselves,' says Chris Jam, DJ and member of the TCR team. The group is thinking big. A four-week broadcast, centred around International Women's Week, is the next step, with plans for more short licences leading to an application for a five year licence later in the year.

'We need to cut our teeth in the mechanics of radio,' says Chris, 'before putting it into practice in the long term, to give a voice to Trafford and an outlet for our talents'

'We go on air on February 24th, and we hope people won't just find us on the dial, they'll find us at the studio and get involved.'



ns shakedown

Let's Go Global

Old Trafford boasts its own TV station. Let's Go Global broadcasts weekly from a state-of-the-art studio off City Road. The show, called LiPY, is a mixture of local news, arts and sport and can be seen by anyone with broadband or on the big screen in Manchester City Centre.

The project uses local volunteers, enabling them to develop skills in journalism, research, video and editing. They are looking for recruits to help with production and to come up with ideas for the show. No media experience is necessary. In the future training will be offered so that community groups or individuals can create their own content.

Let's Go Global broadcasts live every Thursday at 7pm on www.letszoglobal.tv and the shows are available on the site any time thereafter. If you're interested in getting involved or know of an event or issue that should be covered, then contact the station at info@letszoglobal.tv or call Claire Hoang on 0161 848 8437.

A new community website has been created for the Gorse Hill area. The site covers local news and events and promotes the work of community groups such as the Gorse Hill Community Action Group and the Friends of Nansen Park. Current features include the campaign to restore the Gorse Hill Park Lodges, and a new initiative to provide alley gates in the area. Sport is catered for too with pages dedicated to United and City, as well as the Gorse Hill Juniors football team who are about to take their first steps into local league football.

Gorse Hill 4U

The site is available at www.gorsehill4u.co.uk and would welcome contributions and feedback which can be sent to tezer@gorsehill4u.co.uk.



LOVE RADIO?

Radio Regen is offering

Free courses in radio skills

Our courses teach a wide variety of radio skills, including how to put together a report, plan a production, write a script and interview guests. You could even get your work broadcast on

ALL FM 96.9 and **Wythenshawe FM 97.2**

Our next course, starting on 3 March 2006, is a 10-week course for beginners. Places are open to all ages and are free if you are unemployed, receiving benefits or on a low income.

The course runs during the daytime for 3 days a week (15 hrs - Mon to Weds) at Radio Regen's premises in central Manchester, and you may be eligible for help with childcare and attendance costs.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR NEXT COURSE: 14 FEB '06

For further details contact: Alison or John on 0161 237 5012 / info@radioregen.org

Or get in touch with us to find out the dates of other courses!



MANCHESTER
College of Arts and Technology

Radio Regen is a community, media and urban regeneration charity.
Registered Charity No.1077763.





Thinking of going back to work?

Greater Manchester Central Jobcentre Plus and Manchester Action Team for Jobs are committed to working closely with people from Minority Ethnic groups. We have specialist advisers based throughout the Manchester area supporting people back into work, by helping them overcome any barriers they may face. Our advisers are centrally located to the communities that we serve and are not wholly based in jobcentres. We work in partnership with organisations that are also committed to working within the community like ERP. We also have a team of advisers based at Longsight Market every Friday and we have our community bus that goes to different locations within Manchester to promote the work that we do. *(These are just some examples of what we do).*

All our advisers have access to the Jobcentre Plus vacancy database so that job matching can be done at all Outreach locations. We also have access to funding that could help you overcome any barriers that you might be facing. This is a completely voluntary service that the Action Team offers to unemployed individuals who may, or may not be on any benefits.

We can assist with:

- Bus fares for your interviews,
 - Suitable clothing for interviews and for when you start work,
 - Uniforms and tools that are required as part of your job,
 - One to one job matching service, and
 - Referrals to other organisations for additional help.
- (Eligibility rules apply)*

Within the Trafford area, we have Outreach Advisers based at the following addresses:

The Old Trafford Jobshop,
Old Trafford Community Centre
Shrewsbury Street,
Old Trafford, Manchester M16 5BP
0161 912 2030 (10am to 4pm Wed - Fri)

The Wesley Enterprise Centre,
Old York St. (off Royce Road)
Hulme, Manchester M14 5BP
0161 232 9781
(9am-4pm Mon - Thurs)

If you would like to discuss the possibility of returning to work or would like to know how we can help you, then why not come and visit us at your nearest Action Team location.

If you would like to find out where your nearest Action Team Adviser is based, please call:

0800 587 0894





We have positions for:

- **Ground workers** — to work in Trafford and Manchester, maintaining the general upkeep of the area
- **Street cleaners** — Litterpicking and street cleansing - driving licence desirable, but not essential.
- **Gardeners** — Experience of either tractor driving, chemical spraying or commercial gardening is preferred. Driving licence essential, (ideally pre 1997)
- **Local school cleaners** — to work several hours a day cleaning all areas, rotary machine experience would be an advantage
- **Caretakers** — will be required to undergo an enhanced CRB check.

-
- **Drivers, Class I and II** — 2 years recent experience is preferred.
 - **Mechanics** — HGV experience would be an advantage, City & Guilds or equivalent in Motor Studies
 - **Cooks** — duties to include food preparation and basic cooking. Basic Food Hygiene certificate preferred, experience is essential.
 - **Trades people** — Must have at least 5 years experience in their trade

Immediate starts available

Call Kathryn, Emma or Karen at Aptus Personnel Ltd (agy)

0161 973 6626

Aptus Personnel Ltd, Suite Seven, Floor Seven, Acre House,
Sale, Manchester, M33 7WZ

www.aptus-personnel.com/ Email us on manchester.ma@aptus-personnel.com





New Way Forward

Registered Charity:508746

MANAGER
£26,703 - £29,004
Sale, Trafford

New Way Forward is a leading mental health charity in Trafford, meeting the diverse needs of people with mental health issues. We are seeking to recruit a manager to take the organisation, service delivery and evaluation to a new level.

The Challenge – Shape the future of services through management of service user input, strategic development through the Local Implementation Team, managing a growing and vibrant organisation and securing additional funding for development

For an application pack:-
telephone/fax 0161 905 2414 or
Email vcat@vcatrafford.org
Closing date for applications:13 February 06
Interview date: 27 February 06
For an informal discussion about the post
call Norma Nolan on 0161 973 1356



Registered Charity:1098222

Voluntary &
Community
Action Trafford

fair share
Lottery money where it's needed most

Community Development Worker
£20,290 – 24,000
Sale Moor, Trafford

Are you an enthusiastic and experienced Community Development Worker? This could be the job for you!

We are looking for someone who understands social exclusion to support the development of local partnerships, increase community participation and assist in the development and creation of local groups.

Interested? Come along to our open day: 3-7pm,
2 February, St Francis Church, Sale Moor, M33 2RP

For an application pack visit the News section at
www.vcatrafford.org
Email vcat@vcatrafford.org
Telephone/Fax 0161 905 2414

Closing date for applications:17 February 06
Interview date: Thursday 2 March 06

EMPLOYERS

Can't seem to find the right person for the job?

Maybe you're advertising in the wrong places.

**OLD TRAFFORD NEWS can take your vacancies
straight into the homes of 15,000 local residents
(for rates that would make other publications blush)**

**For an advertising pack, ring Ally on 0161 872 7795
or email otn@hotmail.co.uk**





ARE TWO LITTLE WORDS RUINING YOUR LIFE?

“experience preferred”

Then the solution may be right here in your hands

You can gain invaluable work experience volunteering at **Old Trafford News**. You don't need to be a great writer, a skilled photographer or a whizz on the computer. We know you have the talent. We can give you the confidence to use it.

Whether you can spare a couple of hours a week, or a couple of days a week, we'd love to hear from you. You can help support your community, while picking up valuable skills which you can carry straight onto your next job application.

Writing... design... photography... Photoshop... IT... admin... media sales... promotion... marketing... project management... telesales... community development... mentoring... training... illustration... all of these skills and many more go into producing each edition of **Old Trafford News**.

Old Trafford News is YOUR free magazine. Be part of it.

creche available (limited places)

supported by



Parish Mission Fund





Spice up your life!

Spices are the soul of Indian cooking, but there's more to them than that.

By Lina Ahuja

Indian cooks are masters of taste, masters of colour, masters of texture. Flavouring food in India has evolved to a high art and what any average Indian cook can do with a bowl of boiled and mashed lentils will stagger your imagination.

There is a long short-list of spices that go into Indian recipes: coriander, cumin, turmeric, red pepper, nutmeg, mustard, saffron, cinnamon, cardamom, ginger powder, amchoor (green mango powder), paprika, mace. Other flavours are garlic, onion, and ginger, tamarind, pomegranate, and chilli.

Not only do they add colours on the palette, but, each of the many spices in the Indian kitchen has a function: some spices tenderise, others add heat, some colour, others cool, some thicken, others bring a necessary tartness, others curb flatulence. Indian cooking is as diverse as its culture, languages, regions and climates. Every major region of India brings its own unique dishes and subtle variations to popular dishes. Food in the tropical south can be explosively hot compared to that in the east, which can be bland.

Indian cooking has evolved continuously over many centuries, and is now one of the most popular culinary choices across the United Kingdom.

Chef Vinay Wadhwa, owner of

RASOI, on Upper Chorlton Road, who has been in the food business for over 25 years, says 'Indian cooking is a balanced fusion of flavours, and our recipes have evolved to meet the taste of our customers.

'Fresh ground spices are the order of the day in an Indian home', he adds, 'and are chosen according to the nature of the dish, season, individual and family.'

Ideally, whole spices are best. They may be ground as you need them, in a coffee grinder or in a mortar. Most spices quickly lose their flavour so they are best stored in airtight containers and kept in a cool dark place, preferably a wood cabinet.

The role of spices goes beyond just cooking. The simple truth is that spices are good for you. Some have antibiotic properties. Some cleanse your mouth and teeth and literally make your mouth water – which helps to prevent oral infections. Spices are good for your

digestion and may even boost your physical fitness. And despite what you might think, spices don't all raise your blood pressure – some will lower it instead, and lower your chances of a stroke at the same time.

Experimenting with herbs and spices can be fun and you can enjoy those same flavours right in your own home. Sometimes it is that extra bit of spice that differentiates a good meal from a great one.

Hard at work: Vinay Wadhwa
Photos by Lina Ahuja





Healing with Indian spices

The ancient Indian medical system Ayurveda understands properties and actions of food differently than western science and believes that diseases should be treated with food first and medication later. Ayurveda practitioners place great emphasis on diet and the specific attributes of different Indian foods, and suggest certain combinations of food and spices to heal and balance both body and mind.

For good breath: Chewing spices like cardamom, cumin, clove; these act as a mouth freshener.

For conjunctivitis: Crushed coriander mixed with milk or rose water is used as eye drops.

For Toothache: Apply some clove oil on the affected area or keep a clove there for some time.

Cooking With Indian spices

When cooking Indian food these are the basic spices which go into most dishes.

Cumin seeds (jeera)

- Mostly used in North India. It has a strong but very pleasing flavour. Used for digesting foods. They can be fried whole in oil, or ground, or roasted and ground, or ground and then roasted, all with different results.

Turmeric (haldi)

- Mainly used for its medicinal properties, and for the lovely colour that it gives to the dishes. It is most popularly used as a beauty aid, its paste is used to cure pigmentation, maintains pH factor and makes the skin glowing.

Coriander seeds (dhaniya)

- Used for its fresh, cooling and soothing taste

Chilli Powder

Popularly used for its pungent and fiery taste

- one may use fresh green chillies instead

Mustard seeds (black)

- Used mainly in South and West India instead or along with cumin seeds. Known for its strong but very pleasing flavour. Good for digesting foods.

Asafetida (hing, heeng)

-Used as a digestive and for its flavour. Used mainly for its strong sulphur taste along the lines of garlic.





OLD TRAFFORD FOOTBALL

OTJFC 1st team currently stand third in the Lancashire and Cheshire league division 1 where they are trying to gain promotion to the Premier division. The 2nd team are also flying high in a promotion-worthy second place.

Two players, Michael Husbands and Peter McGuire, have been selected for the league representative sides which is quite an honour because most of the team come from the Premier division.

Two under 7's Academy players have been selected for trials at Manchester City, Deandre Williams and Nathaniel Woods. Watch this space to see if they get selected!

Meanwhile one local youngster, 14 year old Laquan Biney has been selected for Blackburn Rovers

Academy. Laquan is also a product of OTJFC Sports and has been given a two year contract at Blackburn.

Young players are rolling off the production line in Old Trafford where Manchester City, Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers and a host of other Premier league clubs are searching for the next Cristiano Ronaldo.

Operation Spotlight is sponsoring OTJFC Sports Academy training sessions and helping to deliver a mentoring programme that helps to educate young people around the dangers of drugs, guns and gangs. Finally, over the festive period OTJFC were hit with some bad news when their popular player Desmond

Ward was found dead at the bottom of Clifford Court in Old Trafford. Our sympathy and condolences go out to all his friends and family.



New Blackburn Rovers signing Laquan Biney, whose dad will presumably now have to buy him a new shirt.

Photo: David Esdaile

The G Camp Thai Boxing Club

Head coach and Co-ordinator Michael Embrack welcomes the community to attend the next Thai Boxing tournament at St. John's Hall Sunday March 5th, 1pm-5pm. There will be refreshments and food on sale and some of our local youngsters will be fighting for awards.

Old Trafford Boxing and Fitness Club

Kevin Williams, co-ordinator of the St John's Hall-based Boxing and Fitness Club was singing the praises of two 16-year-old local lads Simeon Malcolm and Steven Singh recently fought in a regional tournament in Liverpool and came away with "great credit and experience."



six month membership

now available

CONTACT
MOSS SIDE LEISURE CENTRE
FOR DETAILS:

0161 226 5015

info.mossideleisure@leisure.serco.com



George Best 1946 – 2005

Report and photo by Gillian Drayton

George Best, a sporting legend whose personality took him far beyond the football pitch. On November 25th 2005 aged 59 George Best died after suffering multiple organ failure.

Oh George, where did it all go wrong? As I joined mourners outside the Manchester United ground on a bitterly cold November day, the same question was pursued upon everyone's lips 'where did it all go wrong'?

He was 17 when he made his First Division debut for Manchester United in 1963. Two years later he helped United win their first championship for eight years and it was followed by another in 1967. A year later Best helped United become the first English team to win the European Cup.

Arguably the most naturally gifted footballer of his generation, Best was also famous for his increasingly self-indulgent life style. It was this that eventually led to a series of alcohol related illnesses, eventually taking the life of George Best. So what I found ironic was the number of alcohol beverages scattered between the George Best memorabilia and flowers. If Best could come back, would he really like to see the very thing that killed him?



"He was the original football superstar. My bedroom wall, door, ceiling, had posters plastered all over them. George Best was the best and no one could taint him in my eyes".

Caroline Williams, Old Trafford.

"I feel a great loss and an overwhelming sense of grief; I have travelled here, to Old Trafford, all the way from Finland".

Mikko Okkri, Helsinki.



Learn the small changes that make a big difference to your health, diet, weight and shape, for free!

TIME
9.45AM – 11.45AM

DATE
From 30th January
(registration)

Venue:
St Johns Centre
St John's Road
Old Trafford
Manchester M 16
7GX
Tel 0161 872 7795

Or Contact:

Maiya Limited,
FREEPOST
RLYE-TAHG-HUGL,
4a Chilwell Road,
Beeston, Nottingham,
NG9 1EF.

Telephone:
0115 9227020 for
more information

Crèche facilities
available (first
come basis)



NEW YEAR, NEW YOU

Want to make some healthier changes ?





7+ Up!

With Trafford's Vision 2021 just launched, we asked the Brownies how they would like Old Trafford to be in 15 years time. We like their version better,



In 2021 I want Old Trafford to have lots of fun and enjoy their day. Claudia, Age 7.

In 2021:

- * The shops should have better names.
- * Tent shops in every part of Trafford.
- * Playing fields near every flat almost.
- * More parking areas.
- * Every house should have a recycling bin.
- * More furniture shops.
- * A multicoloured bench near every lamp post.
- * A multicoloured path
- * Stripey bricks
- * A picture area
- * AND MORE SWEET SHOPS FOR CHILDREN!

Sophie, Age 9.

In 15 years time I would like pictures on the pavement, more fun stuff for children. Stables where you can learn about horses. A bigger library, more fields to play on, wider roads, lots of animals and more flowers. More recycling areas. Lots of water parks and more Wacky Warehouses.

- Katherine, Aged 9.

PRIZE WORD SCRAMBLE! WIN *STUART LITTLE* 3 DVD!

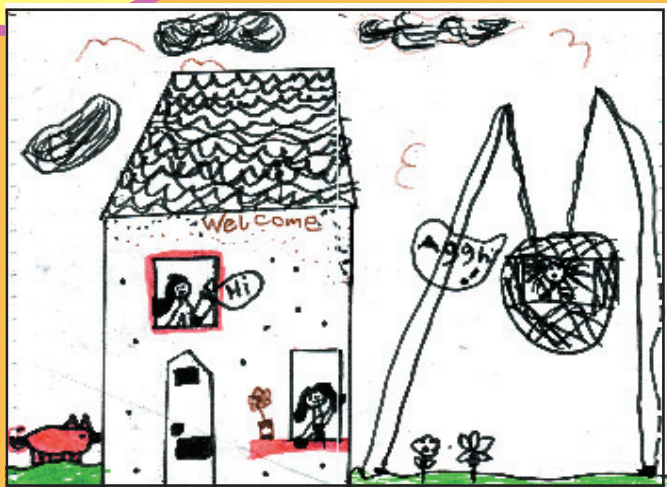
Unscramble the words below and send the answers to the address opposite before February 24th

1. MEYOURS PRKA 2. YERSA AODR. 3. DOL RATDORFF

SCRAMBLED BY Jemma and Rebecca, both Aged 10



OLD Trafford?
No way Grandad
This is
YOUNG Trafford



I would like there to be lots of houses and a ride. - Daniella, age 7.

I think the streets should be colourful rather than plain grey. Make everyone happy. Have an ice rink for the children. Lots of youth clubs and sports clubs so no one plays out and causes trouble. Closer shops because some are too far for old people to walk. More colour in the area. More bins on the street. There should be a local hospital where people can stay for nights and days. And to have a Trafford Eye, like the London Eye.
- Anais, Age 10



This edition of 7+Up has been written and produced by the 4th OT St John's Brownie Pack



I would like a beach with houses and shops, and an Old Trafford Tower.
- Shannon, Age 9

L	S	R	E	W	O	L	F
Q	I	S	P	U	O	R	G
S	V	B	A	H	S	A	E
B	G	A	R	D	E	N	S
U	C	B	K	A	E	M	H
L	R	D	S	B	R	K	O
C	T	U	M	O	T	Y	P
I	C	O	L	O	U	R	S

PRIZE WORD SEARCH ! WIN STUART LITTLE 3 ON DVD

There are nine things the Brownies would like to see more of in Old Trafford hidden in the grid. Find at least SIX for a chance to win Stuart Little 3.

Send your answers to either or both puzzles before February 24th to:
OTN, St John's Centre, St John's Road, Old Trafford M16 7GX

SET BY Fareda, age 7 and Abigail, 8



STUART LITTLE 3 is on sale from Feb 27th, price £14.99



Dear OTN...

YOUR LETTERS

What a load of rubbish....

Dear OTN,

I was interested to read the articles in the summer issue of Old Trafford News, about rubbish and refuse in the area, and I have some sympathy with the views expressed in these articles.

The question I would like to ask is "where does all the rubbish in Old Trafford come from?" The simple answer is "from the people who live here". People who allow rubbish to be blown out of their bins and who make no attempt to pick it up. People who drop sweet wrappers, chewing gum, cigarette ends. People who pour

cooking oil down the drains, the rats really love this. People who allow their dogs to foul the streets. The list is endless. And I can't believe that all the fly tipping is done by people who live away from Old Trafford.

Until the residents of Old Trafford take some pride and ownership in where they live, this problem will not go away, no matter how many wardens, litter pickers and mechanical sweepers the council provide. Wake up Old Trafford and be proud of where you live.

'Grumpy Old Woman'
Old Trafford

Addison House... the story continues

Dear OTN,

I was interested to read your report on developments at Addison Community House in your last magazine.

Your readers may like to know that Bloom (Healthy Living Network) is in the process of developing the Addison Community House project in ongoing working partnerships with key agencies such as Trafford Housing Trust, Citizens Advice Bureau, and Trafford Law Centre to try put on a well needed services timetable at Addison Community House.

This project has a good potential to become a key community resource to the Old Trafford community by trying to fill current gaps in services with in the Old Trafford area. Currently there is some great work been done at Addison Community House from key voluntary agencies such as ACE Asian Women's Group.

Best of luck with the magazine,

Bally Singh, Bloom.

With Valentine's Day just around the corner,

Sheryl Sophia Sleigh

serves up a romantic treat of a poem.

Love is...

*The dawn breaking across the sky
With hues wrapped in gold.
Love is all the wonderful senses,
My tender heart can hold.*

*The magic of each raindrop
Kissing the window pane.
Like little angels touching me,
Time and time again.*

*Love is the word unspoken
When gazing into your eyes.
Seeing my dreams all appear,
With wings that want to fly.*

*Love is holding you tightly
With all the power I possess,
And knowing without a doubt,
I am happy and I am blessed.*

Sheryl's books of poetry are available
from www.time4reflection.com

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MAGAZINE?

Write to us at:
OTN, St John's Centre,
St John's Road,
Old Trafford, M16 7GX

or email:
otn@hotmail.co.uk



Old Trafford What's On Guide

We aim to provide as complete and accurate a guide to events in and around Old Trafford as possible. However, please bear in mind that Old Trafford News is a voluntary project and we are neither psychic nor blessed with infinite resources for research. If you know of any inaccuracies or omissions from these pages, please email us at otn@hotmail.co.uk and we shall do our best to rectify them for the next magazine. Thank you.

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON

Childcare

Day care
King's Road Family Centre
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am-11.30am 1pm-3pm
Contact Val Gray 881 3571

Daycare
Old Trafford Family Centre
Children aged 2-5 years
Monday – Friday 9-11.45

Drop In
King's Road Family Centre
Monday 9am-11.30am
Friday 9am-11.30am
Contact Val Gray 881 3571

Drop in sessions
Old Trafford Family Centre
0-4 years: Term time. 0-11 years: school
Monday – Thursday 1-3pm

Holiday Club
Old Trafford Family Centre
13th, 15th & 17th

Park Nursery Jill Carding
Monday-Friday 8.00
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 1-3pm-12.00-3pm (term time)
O/T Community Centre

Childminder Group
Firwood Community Centre
Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 9.30-11.30am
Tel:- 861-9042

Mother and toddler Group
Firwood Community Centre
Wednesday 9.30-11.30am
Call Geraldine on:- 861-9042

Events

Learn to save someones life
Lancashire County Cricket Club
11th February 06
Info:- 282-4072

Lets go global
British Art Show
3rd February 06
7pm-10pm
Contact:-848-8786

Entertainment

Lets Go Global
Internet TV for Old Trafford
www.superchannel.org

Trafford Community Radio
On air, Feb 24 – March 23rd,
106.2FM
Mary Seacole House
0161 864 4499

Jamaica Society Dance
St John's Centre, Friday Feb 24
£7 adults, £3.50 children
0161 881 8090

SUST Fashion Show
Urbis, April 10th
Contact Claire Wheeler:
0845 108 6241

Education

Art- Painting through watercolours
St John's Centre
Monday 1-3pm
0161 872-7795

Art Group
Firwood Community Centre
Friday 1-4pm
Silvia 718-7905

Womens Keep Fit
St John's Centre
Tuesday 1:30pm-2:30pm
Thursdays 10:15am-11:15am
0161 872-7795

Computer Courses
Wednesday 12.30-3pm
King's Road School
no crèche provided

Computer Course
Old Trafford Family Centre
Monday 1-3pm
0161 226 1308

Computers for Beginners
St John's Centre
Monday 10-12pm
0161 872 7795

Computers for Intermediate
St John's Centre
Tuesday 10-12pm
0161 872 7795

Photoshop
St John's Centre
Thursday 1-3pm
0161 872 7795



Dhol Drumming
Monday 5pm-8pm
Old Trafford Community
Centre
0161 912 4657

OT News Project
St. John's Centre
Mondays 10-1pm
0161 872 7795

Accredited Healthy Life-
style Programme
Monday 10-12pm
St John's Centre
0161 872-7795

**English for Speakers of
Other Languages (Mixed)**
Monday 1-3pm
St. John's Centre
0161 872 7795

St John's Centre
Wednesday 1-3pm
0161 872 7795

Old Trafford Primary
School
Thursday 9.15-11.15am
0161 886 7000

Stretford High School
Saturday 9.30-11.30am
0161 886 7000

Buddhist Temple,
Stretford Road
Monday 1-3pm
0161 886 7000

**English for Speakers of
Other Languages
(Women)**
Seymour Park Primary
Thursday 9.15-11.15am
0161 886 7000

King's Road Primary
Thursday 1.15-3.15pm
0161 886 7000

**English for Speakers of
Other Languages (Men
Only)**
Faizan-e-Islam Mosque
Tuesday 7-9pm
0161 886 7000

Old Trafford Community Centre
Tuesday 6.30-8.30pm
0161 886 7000

French class for Adults
Thursday 5.30pm-6.30pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Dress Making level 2
St John's Centre
Thursday 1-3pm
0161 872 7795

Indian Folk Music
Thursday 7pm-9pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

IT Training
Hulme Community Computing
Any Time
0161 445 0216

Learn Direct
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Fri-
day. 9-4.45
Wednesday 9am-12.30pm
Saturday 10am-12.30pm 1.15-
3.45
Old Trafford Community Centre/
Stretford Library
0161 912 4657

Meditation Classes
Zion Centre
Places limited
0161 226 5412

Photoshop
St John's Centre
Thursday 1-3pm
0161 872 7795

Positive Vibes
Computer music making course
Old Trafford library
Wednesdays 2-5pm
07961 521 531

Sewing Group
Monday 1-3pm
St John's Centre
0161 872-7795

Assertiveness Taster
Wed March 1st, 1-3pm
St John's Centre
0161 872-7795

Internet Café
Addison House
Old Trafford
0161 882 0824

Dressmaking accredited level 1
Tuesday 1-3pm
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

Sports drop in session
Tuesday 3-5pm
St John's centre
Tel:- 872-7795

Return to English (accredited)
Wednesday 10-12pm
St John's centre
Tel:-872-7795

Health walk SG health centre
begins March
Wednesday 10.30-12pm
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

First Aid
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

Job Shop Outreach Services
Thursday 10-12pm
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

Dressmaking level 2
Thursday 1-3pm
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

Flower Craft
Thursday 1-3pm
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

Badminton for Women
Friday 10-12pm
St John's Centre
Tel:-872-7795

Reflexology(appointment)
Friday 12.30-3.30pm
St John's Centre
£5.00 min donation
Tel:-872-7795

Sports drop in session
Friday 2-4.30pm
St John's centre
Tel:-872-7795



Art Group
Firwood Community Centre
Friday 1-4.00pm

Trafford Community Radio
106.2FM
Training now, until March 23rd
Mary Seacole House
0161 864 4499

WFA
8wk New Media Course
7th Feb-30th March 06
11th July-31st August
26th September-16th November
0161 848 9782

WFA
C & G 7500 level 3 / 4
Diploma in new media techniques
Starts 26th September 06
0161 848-9782

Help and Advice

Outreach Benefits Advisor Job
Centre Plus - Shamyra Afzal
Old Trafford Job Shop
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 2031

Citizen Advice Bureau
Addison Community House
Tuesdays 10-4pm
0161 912 3350 for
appointments

Community Learning Trafford
Coffee Morning
Seymour Park School - Feb 27th
and March 27th with advice from
Trafford Next Step. 9am
Contact 0161 912 1350

Councillor Lloyd - Surgery
Addison Community House
Monday 1-3pm
07799768615

Credit Union
St John's Centre,
Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30
St Ann's, Chester Road
Thursday 7.30 - 8.30pm
Gorse Hill United Church,
Chester Road
Saturday 10-12 noon
Main Office
Shrewsbury Street Centre

Addison House
Addison Avenue
Wednesday 10-12
Carol 0161 912 1536

Pulling Together
Friday 5pm-8pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
Gulnar Khan

Trafford Direct Surgery
Council Tax/Housing Benefits
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9-12.30 1.15-5pm
Wednesday 9-12.30pm
Saturday 10 - 12.30 1.15-4
Old Trafford Community Centre

Trafford Housing
Surgery
Addison Community House
Wednesday 2-4pm
0161 912-1528

Trafford Learning & Careers Drop
in for Employment & Training
advice.
FREE CV's and internet job
search.
Addison Community House
Monday & Thursday 1-4pm (ev-
ery other week)
0161 912 5153 ask for Sam.

Stretford Jobcentre
Old Trafford Jobshop
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
10-3pm
0161 253 8537

Local Groups & Volunteering

Acupuncture Service
Zion Centre
Wednesday 1-4pm
0161 226 5412

Alcohol Group
Zion Centre
Thursday 6-8pm
0161 226 5412
Anger Management Group
Zion Centre
Every 5 weeks
0161 226 5412

Anxiety Group

Zion Centre
Wednesday 1-3pm
0161 226 5412

BDP Group (carers)
Zion Centre
Monday 2-4pm
0161 226

Epilepsy Group
Kath Locke Centre
Tuesday 7-9pm
0161 226 5412

Manchester Social Phobia
Group
Kath Locke Centre
Tuesday 7-9pm
0161 226 5412

Men's Proactive Group
Broome House
Tuesday 11am
0161 9124839

Old Trafford Asian Women's
Group
Old Trafford Community
Centre
Tuesday 11.30-1.30pm
0161 226 5412

Old Trafford Family Centre
Volunteers needed for Toy
Library Craft Shop
& Maintenance
0161 226 1308

Old Trafford News
Volunteers needed for all
aspects.
St John's Centre
0161 872 7795

Parents/Carers Group
Old Trafford Community
Centre
Crèche provided
Tuesday 1-3pm
0161 226 1308

Recycled Teenagers
Over 50's Club
Addison House
Fridays 11-1pm

Right 2 Unite
Women's Support Group
Zion Centre
Tuesday 6-8pm



0161 226 5412

Self Harm Group
Zion Centre
0161 226 5412

Spiritual Healing
Zion Centre
Thursday 11-1pm
0161 226 5412

Step by Step
The Self Help Group
Broome House
Wednesday 1-2.30pm
0161 9124839

Survivors Group
Chorlton House, Manches-
ter Rd, Chorlton
Tuesday 6-8pm
0161 226541

Zion Depression Group
Zion Centre
Wednesday 3-5pm
0161 226 5412

Zion Gay Men's Group
Zion Centre
Tuesday 6-8pm
0161 226 5412

Sport, Exercise & Health

Alexandra Park Health
Walks
Wednesday 1.30-2.30pm
Meet at Alexandra/Clare-
mont entrance.

Alexandra Park 5K
Sundays(1st)
Tel:-Martin 0779 3538156

Alexandra Park Clean up
Paul 226-7525

Friends of Alexandra Park
Meet up last Tuesday of
the month
7pm
Call Paul 226-7525

Asian Exercise Class
(female only)
Friday 5pm-8pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Badminton, Pool,
Table Tennis
St John's Centre
Tuesday 3-5pm
Friday 2.30-4.30pm
0161 8727795

Boxing
Wednesday 8pm-10pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Boxing Club
St John's Hall
Monday & Thursday 6-9pm
Kevin 07712 234601

Cardiac Exercise Class
Wednesday 10am-12pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Community Nursing
Well Women's clinic
Seymour Grove Health
Centre
Wednesday 6.30-8.15pm
0161 872 5672

Dance Class 3+
Wednesday 4.15-5.15pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

OTJFC Football Training
6.30pm-8.30pm Tuesday under
16's
6.30pm-8.30pm Thursdays over
16's
6.30pm-9.00pm Fridays under 9's
at Vida Sports
11am-12.30pm Saturdays under
16's
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657 or 07961 521 5

Keep Fit for women
King's Road Scout Hut
Wednesday 7pm
07947438322

Ladies Keep Fit
Tuesday 1.30pm-2.15pm
Old Trafford Community Centre

Ladies Keep Fit
St John's Centre
Tuesday 1.30-2.30
Thursday 10.15-11.15
0161 8727795

Qi-gong & Quality of Life ses-
sions for women
Zion Community Resource
Friday 4-6pm
0161 445 0216

Qi-gong for Health
Kath Locke Centre
Monday 4.30-5.30pm
0161 44

Slimmers World
Monday 6pm-7pm
King's Road School

Touchdown Exercise Class
Thursday 7.30pm-9.30pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Twist Netball
Wednesday 6.45-8.00pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912

Tai Chi
Firwood Community Centre
(Quadrant)
Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday
7.30-8.30pm
Tel:- John at 860-4111

Sugar Craft
Firwood Community Centre
Tuesday 9-12pm
Thursday 12-3pm
Tel:- Barbra 747-6471

5 day Digital Video Production
WFA, Lucy Street
3rd April-7th April
Tel:-848-9782

Weight Watchers
Friday 10-11am
St John's Centre
0161 755 3853



Youth Activities

Boxing Club
St John's Hall
Thursday 6-7pm
Kevin 07712 234601

Brownies
St John's Hall
Wednesday 6-7.30pm
0161 8727795

Brownies
Monday 6.15-7.15pm
St Hilda's School

Brownies
Tuesday 6.15-7.30pm
Firwood community centre
(Quadrant)
Tel Kay on 865-5483

English/Maths lessons Sat 10pm-1pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

French Class for Children
Thursday 3.30pm-4.30pm
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Guides
Tuesday 7.00pm-8.30pm
Firwood Community centre
Tel:- Adel 865-0182

Internet Café
Addison Community House
Tuesday 5-7pm
0161 882 0824

Keen 4 Green
Old Trafford Youth Centre
Call Ian or Rachel
on 0161 873 7182

Kickboxing 3+
Monday 6pm-7pm juniors
7pm-9pm seniors
Old Trafford Community Centre
0161 912 4657

Rainbows age 5+(girls)
Monday 5.15pm-6.15pm
St. Hilda's School
Would like more rainbows and
leaders please!

Rainbows
Tuesday 5.30pm-6.30pm
Firwood Community Centre
Tel:-Joan on 283-1058

STEP Saturday School
St John's Hall
8-14 years Saturday 11-2pm

Tap Ballet Disco and Cheerleading Age 3+
Saturday 9.15-1.15
Firwood Community Centre
Tel:- Mary on 283-1058

Dance Class
Old Trafford Community Centre
4.15-6.15
0161 912 4657

Churches

St Hilda's
Corner of Kings Road and
Warwick Rd South 865 1802.
Sunday
8.15am Communion
9.45 am Main service

St John's
Ayres Road, Old Trafford
Sunday
8.30am Communion
10.00am Sung communion
First Wednesday of every month
service held at Bath Crescent ,
Sheltered Housing

St Theresa's
St Theresa's Road, Firwood 881
3558
Sunday
10.30am Joint mass with St John's
Church, Chorlton

St Brides,
Blair Street,
Old Trafford 226 6064
Main service Sunday 10.30am
Every 2nd & 4th Sunday,
informal prayer & worship, 7pm

Sharon Church
Chorlton Road 226 7334
Sunday
Main service 10.30am
Evening service 6.30
Monday
7.30pm Bible study
Frida
7.45 Prayer Service

New Testament
Church Of God
Upper Chorlton Road 226
6999
Sunday
Sunday School 10.15am
– 11.15am
Main Service 11.30am
Evening Service 6.30pm
Monday
Every other Monday Prayer
Meeting 7.45pm
Every other Monday Ladies
Group 7.45pm
Tuesday
Every other Tuesday Bible
Study 7.45
Saturday
Mens Fellowship 7.30pm

United Reformed Church
3 Ayres Road
Old Trafford Manchester 16
7GQ

St. Alphonsus Church
Ayres Road
Old Trafford
Sunday 10.15am
Fr.P.Deegan
0161 226-1730

Church of God and Prophecy
Firwood Community Centre
Sunday 10-1pm
Tel:- Pastor Daisy 232-9207

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON

INSIDE STORY

News from OTN

Please meet our new co-ordinator

Last November the Old Trafford News group welcomed a new co-ordinating editor to oversee the project. It's the first time in the magazine's history that we've had the luxury of a full-time employee to hand, with responsibility not only for helping to supervise, train and support the volunteers in the production of the magazine, but also to steer the group towards a long-term future as a viable and self-financing social enterprise.

The lucky guy - or so he insists - is Ally Fogg. So let's hear from the man himself:

'It seems fitting to introduce myself by quoting another ex-pat Scot - someone that those of a certain age may remember - David Byrne, of Talking Heads.

'And you may find yourself in another part of the world.... and you may ask yourself, how did I get here? And you may ask yourself, my God, what have I done?'

Let me take the first question first. How did I get here? The short answer is this: on the Number 53. (But don't get me started on that subject.) The slightly longer answer goes back to about 1992.

I was already in Manchester, in a dull job. What I wanted to do was to write. But I didn't want to write just anything - I was young, angry and fired up by the injustices and inequalities around us then (as now.) I thought I could use whatever talents I had to change the world. What a sucker.

So I began to write as a volunteer for a variety of non-profit papers and magazines until I had the nerve to pass myself off as a journalist. I made a passable career for myself in the end. It was fun, I was pretty good at it. I even scraped a living of sorts. I worked for the Big Issue, the Guard-

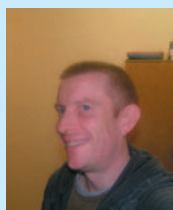
ian, the Metro, you name it. But I never did change the world. And then a few years ago I discovered something remarkable: something that literally changed my life. It was community media.

My route in was volunteering at ALL FM, South Manchester's community radio station. My involvement became deeper last year when I was asked to write a book on the subject. While doing so, I heard incredible stories of people whose lives had been turned around by projects like Old Trafford News. And not just individuals, whole communities that had been transformed by one simple difference - finally they had a voice.

Old Trafford News boasts, quite rightly, that it is the finest community magazine in the country. It is an honour to work with a team of volunteers with so much talent, enthusiasm and good humour. It has been a humbling experience to talk to you, the people of Old Trafford, and hear the warmth and passion you have for this project. But I am not content with this being the best *community* magazine in Britain. I want this to be the best *magazine*, full stop. If that sounds outlandish - well just look at the competition. Did Hello! ever change anyone's life? Did Nutz ever enable communities to access jobs, training, facilities? No chance. But OTN can - and it already has. Finally I have found a magazine that really can change the world.

So Mr Byrne - *my God, what have I done?* I've taken the best job in the world, that's what.

I only hope I can do it justice.



Now meet the team



Anna-Marie McLaughlin has lived in Old Trafford all her life and studied media at MANCAT

OT resident Celia Hooson's brilliant photos in this issue are the first she has done for us.



David Esdaile has volunteered with OTN for four years and lived in Old Trafford for considerably longer than that.

Hal Husbands recently returned to OT after years living away



Gillian Drayton is our resident photography expert and trainer, and has lived in Old Trafford for two years

Lina Ahuja moved here from India recently, and we hope she will keep writing when she shortly becomes a mother



Iveren Yongo doesn't live in Old Trafford, but keeps being drawn back by her love of music and writing

Paul Sheehan is a housefather and former OT resident who recently signed up to write for OTN.



Pele Dawson signed up to OTN after enrolling on a photography course under Gillian's tuition.

Menyen Lai has lived in Old Trafford all her life, and volunteers between studies at Liverpool Uni.



Sheryl Sophia Sleigh volunteered at OTN to keep in touch with the area she left long ago. Her poem is the first contribution of what we hope will be many.



St Johns Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 7GX
Telephone 0161 872 7795 open Mon—Fri 10am - 4pm



ST JOHNS CENTRE - 24YEARS
WORKING TOWARDS BETTER RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE OF
OLD TRAFFORD AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF
LIFE OF THOSE WHO COME TO US

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
TRAFFORD 2021 VISION

MOST COURSES AND ACTIVITIES ARE FREE
CRECHE FACILITIES AVAILABLE 10-12NOON AND 1-3PM FOR USERS
OF OUR SERVICES.

COURSES INCLUDE - ART, KEEP FIT, IT, ENGLISH,
FLOWERCRAFT, DRESSMAKING, BASIC SKILLS, SPANISH
DIY, AND LOTS MORE.



PART FUNDED BY ERDF

Free Training

An introduction to MEDIA SKILLS

From mid-February, *OLD TRAFFORD NEWS* will begin a weekly training course (10 x 2 hours) introducing the fundamentals of journalism, photography and design. Learn valuable transferrable skills, have a lot of fun, and - if you like - contribute to the NEXT issue of *OTN*. Places are strictly limited, so call today.

0161 872 7795

Creche facilities may be available. Priority given to Old Trafford residents.
St. John's Centre, St. John's Road, M16 7GX

This isn't the end. It's just the beginning.



Parish Mission Fund